



## Supremes to Hear Libertarians' Case

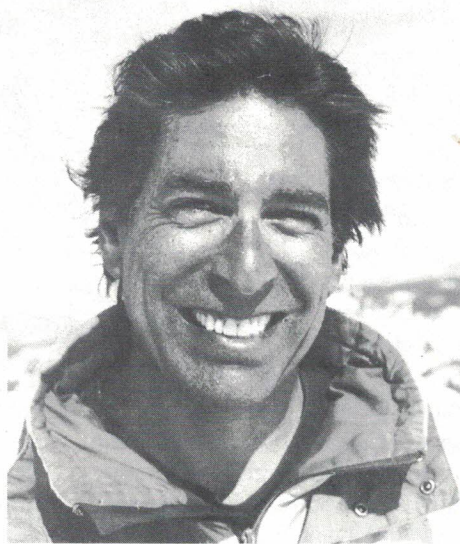
*State Justices to Consider Lawsuit Against San Diego Convention Center Project*

In a victory for Libertarians, the citizens of San Diego and supporters of democracy, the California Supreme Court voted on April 2nd to hear a lawsuit filed by three Libertarian activists challenging the legality of financing a municipal project to expand the San Diego Convention Center. The decision was nearly unanimous — six justices voted to hear the case and one abstained — and conclusively disproves charges by local politicians, their beneficiaries and media toadies that the lawsuit was “frivolous.”

Until now, Plaintiffs Richard Rider, Pat Wright and Chris Winkler had lost every lower court battle in the case, as well as every major court battle in a related challenge last year to the expansion of San Diego's Jack Murphy Stadium. Public officials had even threatened to counter sue the Plaintiffs, alleging that their case was without probable cause. “Landmark decisions are always an uphill fight,” said Rider, “and we just took a *huge* step up that hill.”

The court's decision shocked government officials. In fact, the City Council was so confident the court would reject the Plaintiffs' petition for review that it recently voted for a series of appropriations to prepare for construction once the court ruled in the city's favor. Now their plans have come to a screeching halt.

Not surprisingly, politicians and businessmen hoping to profit from the project were disappointed by the court's decision. “It makes us *(continued on page 3)*



Steve Kubby

## Kubby to Run for Governor

*Tahoe Libertarian Throws Hat into 1998 Election Ring*

On April 20th, author, publisher and entrepreneur Steve Kubby announced his intention to become the Libertarian Party's candidate for Governor of California in the 1998 election.

At his home in Lake Tahoe, surrounded by his wife Michelle, his son Sky, his baby daughter Brooke, and a circle of friends and supporters, Kubby said: “The shadow of big government threatens to destroy the American dream. Our public officials openly oppose the people's will. High taxes require two incomes to pay, and nuclear families are in a meltdown. In 1998, Californians will choose between a return to the traditional values of freedom, liberty, and self-determination, or a continuance of the *(continued on page 9)*

## Proposition 209 Upheld

*Court Rules Anti-Discrimination Law is Constitutional*

by Manny Klausner & Richard Venable

In a 3-0 ruling issued on April 8th, the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the constitutionality of Proposition 209, and ordered that Judge Henderson's preliminary injunction be vacated.

In a powerful and far-reaching opinion, Judge Diarmuid O'Scannlain wrote: “A system which permits one judge to block with the stroke of a pen what 4,736,180 state residents voted to enact as law tests the integrity of our constitutional democracy.” He continued: “...there is simply no doubt that Proposition 209 is constitutional... Any governmental action that classifies persons by race is presumptively unconstitutional and subject to the most exacting judicial scrutiny... Proposition 209's ban on race and gender preferences, as a matter of law and logic, does not violate the Equal Protection Clause in any conventional sense.”

O'Scannlain concluded: “That the Constitution permits the rare race-based or gender-based *(continued on page 3)*

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- ▶ *LPC Growth Watch*
- ▶ *Tax Day Protests*
- ▶ *Columns, Letters & More!*



May 1997

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## LETTERS

### "Citizen Service" Shrugged

The Ayn Rand Institute has launched a major campaign in opposition to President Clinton's call for "a renewed sense of obligation, a new sense of duty, a new season of service." What is Mr. Clinton promoting, especially in Philadelphia at the April 27-29 "Summit on America's Future"? "Millions of citizens" (especially the young) giving their time, their energy, their future, their lives — to serve others. Mr. Clinton has already embraced Maryland's requirement that high school students perform community service in order to graduate.

Mr. Clinton's call for American servitude is an inversion of the principles on which this nation was established: an individual's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, as envisioned and championed by the Founding Fathers.

In our judgement, children do not have a congenital obligation to others. They should be left free to pursue their own academic and career interests, their own goals and values — not to be taught that their lives belong to others, to be lived for others in humble, dutiful servitude. We hold that compelling children to perform "service to others" in order to graduate is morally repugnant — conjuring up images of Soviet Red Pioneers or Nazi Hitler Youth. Put another way, should Thomas Edison have been left free to invent the light bulb, or should he have been required to give out free candles to the indigent in order to earn a high school diploma?

The Ayn Rand Institute has a long track record of involvement in education. Since 1985, more than 50,000 high school students have participated in our essay contests. More than 80,000 teacher's guides to *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged* have been distributed in schools. College clubs devoted to Rand's novels and philosophy are active on dozens of campuses.

To help fight for your freedom and that of your friends and your family, we encourage you to visit our Web site to sign our petition to protest against the President's "citizen service" call. You can find the site at <[http://www.aynrand.org/no\\_servitude](http://www.aynrand.org/no_servitude)>.

The petition will be forwarded to President

Clinton on July 4th, 1997. He must be told that Americans value their freedoms and their rights.

If you can alert ten, or twenty, or fifty individuals, organizations, news groups, etc. about our campaign and petition, you will have provided invaluable help in combating the destructive ideas advocated at the Philadelphia "Service" Summit.

Thank you in advance for whatever assistance you can provide in our efforts to reach the widest possible audience with this call for freedom.

DR. MICHAEL S. BERLINER  
Executive Director  
The Ayn Rand Institute



### Ron Paul Returns

Congressman [and 1988 LP presidential candidate] Ron Paul (R-TX) made national

news recently by sending a letter signed by 20+ Republican congressmen to their party's leadership. The "mini-revolution"-ary letter called on Republican leaders to revive their failed revolution by prioritizing tax reform, especially abolition of the estate tax and other such onerous burdens in this 105th Congress. *Insight* magazine (a good conservative news weekly) opined that "there's a mini-revolution stirring" led by libertarian Republican Ron Paul.

We agree that Ron Paul is no knee-jerk conservative and may be able to advance the cause of tax abolition. You can contact his web site at <http://www.house.gov/paul/mainpage.htm> and subscribe to his free online *Freedom News*. Also, take a look at his legislative initiatives at <<http://www.house.gov/paul/thegood.htm>>.

If you have any good news for tax abolitionists around the world, send the Tax Abolition Network a note at the e-mail address below. And remember, there's only 50 weeks remaining until you have to pay income taxes again — so start revolting now!

TAX ABOLITION NETWORK  
<http://www.silcom.com/~taxabo>

Send your letters to:

**LPC Monthly**

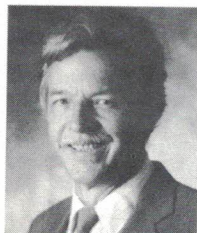
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## Libertarian Files Lawsuit Against School District



**Neal Donner**

**O**n April 8th, the Los Angeles School Repair Bond, Proposition BB, passed with a slim two-thirds majority. The bond may have passed but another controversy surrounding it is only beginning.

On April 7th, Libertarian activist Neal Donner and attorneys Manny Klausner and Patrick Manshardt of the Individual Rights Foundation filed a lawsuit contending that the LAUSD and its officials used public resources illegally in their campaign supporting Proposition BB. According to Donner, "Our public officials used LAUSD money for TV commercials, organized students and parents on school property, hung pro-BB banners on school property, etc."

The lawsuit seeks the return of an estimated \$100,000 in district funds used to

support the bond measure. It states: "The misuse of public resources violates...state and federal constitutional rights to free speech, free elections and to exercise the initiative process."

The lawsuit includes a Complaint For Taxpayers' Injunctive Relief; Damages and Declaratory Relief; an Application for a Temporary Restraining Order; and an Order To Show Cause. Defendants include the Los Angeles Unified School District, Superintendent Sydney Thompson, General Manager of Facilities Services Division Beth Louargand, High School Principal Earl Barner and 500 other defendants.

"They say they used the funding for informational activities," said Manshardt, "and that they have a right to inform voters through community meetings and debates. But that's not what they were doing, They were running campaigns out of the schools." (continued on page 4)

## Northern Regional Conference

**T**he members of Region 45 (Shasta) have announced their plans to sponsor the first annual Northern Regional Conference of the Libertarian Party of California, to be held in Redding on the last weekend in July. The meeting is intended to promote the activation of new regions in areas which are not now organized and the development of candidates for next year. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

The event will include a seminar for activism, guest speakers and an outdoor barbecue on Saturday. Further details will be posted on the Internet and published in *LPC Monthly* as they become available.

For advance information, call Vince Carlton at (916) 223-4123 or e-mail Gail Ponthier at <gponth@awwwsome.com>. If you're an LPC member in Northern California, you won't want to miss this event! ■

## Proposition 209

(continued from page 1)

preference hardly implies that the state cannot ban them altogether... The district court determined that plaintiffs had demonstrated irreparable harm because Proposition 209 threatened to inflict an immediate and ongoing constitutional injury upon them. That conclusion...rests on an erroneous legal premise... As a matter of law, Proposition 209 does not violate the United States Constitution."

### ACLU to Seek Review

The ACLU announced that it will ask the Ninth Circuit for "en banc" review, which requires that a majority of the 20 judges on the circuit order a rehearing by 11 judges of the Ninth Circuit. En banc reviews are rarely granted. Nevertheless, Mark Rosenbaum, legal director of the ACLU of Southern California, said he was confident that the court would grant

a full review.

Never a master of understatement, Rosenbaum contended that the panel's ruling "does not just move minorities and women to the back of the bus, it boots them off all together."

It is disappointing to see the shrill, exaggerated attacks on the court by a prominent ACLU attorney — who, instead of stirring up racial tension, should have an interest in avoiding racial division. Thirty-five years ago, the ACLU strenuously opposed racial classifications by the state. What has happened to turn their previous position on its head? Will they again return to their earlier position that governmental racial classifications are morally repugnant in a free society?

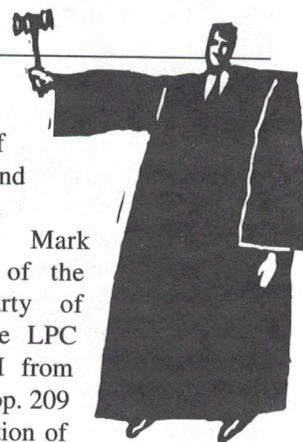
### LPC Applauds Ruling

"The decision to uphold the California Civil Rights Initiative is a vindication of the majority of the voters and of the

Declaration of Independence, and a return to sweet reason," said Mark Hinkle, Chair of the Libertarian Party of California. "The LPC supported CCRI from its inception. Prop. 209 and the Declaration of Independence are both clearly written. They say that all people are created equal, have the same rights and are to be treated equally under the law."

Hinkle continued: "In the Libertarian view, when people seek preferential treatment, for whatever reason, they are saying that they don't believe they have what it takes to face open competition. They become victims of their own thinking — or victims of those who would profit from their purported victimization."

Hinkle went on to applaud Richard H. Halvorson, for- (continued on page 10)



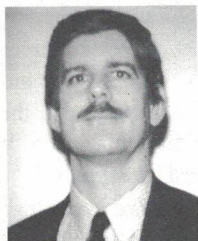


From The Chair:

## Pledge to Success

by Mark Hinkle

This is my third column as Chair of the Libertarian Party of California — and my third reminder that we, as a party, have three main goals to accomplish this year:



1. Increase our dues-paying membership to 5,000.
2. Raise \$150,000 in revenues.
3. Hire at least one paid employee, working in an office.

So, what are we doing to accomplish these goals?

Goal #1: By the time you receive this newsletter, the first membership recruitment letter from LPC Membership Chair Pat Wright will be in the mail.

Goal #2: Our third fundraising letter will also be in the mail. According to our plan, we will send out one fund raising letter each month until the end of the year. To date, we've raised over \$16,000. Thanks to all who have contributed!

Goal #3: I've begun negotiations with Santa Clara County Chair Sam Severs, to share his region's office as a location for our paid staff, which I hope to hire in the next few months.

How soon we can afford to hire staff and whether that position will be part-time or full-time, depends on you. Specifically, it depends on your regular sustained financial support. More on that in a moment.

The LPC has had paid staff before. In fact, we have had at least seven employees during our short existence. They included current National Director Perry Willis, Advocates for Self Government founder Marshall Fritz, former LP Vice Presidential candidate Jim Lewis (recently deceased), and the late Bob Lehman

(after whom the national party's Bob Lehman Membership Award is named).

One of the main reasons why all of these people are former as opposed to current employees is that we, as a party, failed to generate sufficient funds to pay them each and every month. We will not make that mistake again — at least not under my watch!

Our party must raise a corps of monthly pledgers — LPC members who will contribute funds on a monthly basis — in order to generate enough capital to cover the staff payroll and office expenses, and to have a little left over to save for emergencies. Monthly pledgers are the foundation upon which we can build our future; without them, our efforts to build the party will sink into the mire of failure.

A full-time clerical staffer will cost \$30,000-40,000 per year, plus office expenses. At minimum, we must get our monthly pledge program to generate \$3,000 per month — and \$4,000 per month would be much, much better! That sounds like a lot of money until you consider this: it would take only 100 people donating one dollar a day to raise \$3,000 per month; it would take only 134 people donating a dollar a day to raise \$4,000 per month. Right now the LPC has over 4,000 members — I don't see any reason why we shouldn't be able to raise that kind of money!

Sooner or later this party — if it's going to compete in and win the game of politics — must hire professionals to pursue our goals full-time. Will it be sooner or later?

It's up to you.

Please join me by becoming an LPC pledger. You can use the membership form on the back of this newsletter to sign up. I'm not asking you to give until it hurts — just pledge an amount that you can comfortably afford each month. You'll be helping to lay the foundation for our party's success — and the rebirth of freedom in America. ■

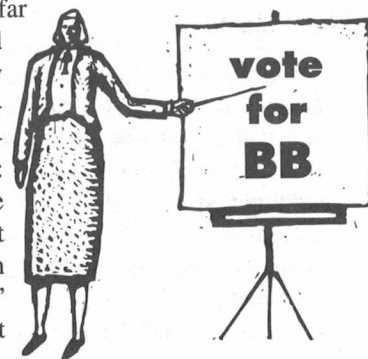
## Libertarian Files Lawsuit

(continued from page 3)

School board President Jeff Horton acknowledged that school funds were used to print banners and brochures discussing the bond's proposed use, but said such activities are legal and appropriate.

Donner and his lawyers argue that the school officials' activities on behalf of BB went far

beyond impartially disseminating information: "They were blatant campaign efforts," Manshardt said.



Indeed, the day before the election, Superior Court Judge Diane Wayne ordered the District to take down a 5'x4' display of a dilapidated schoolhouse that she considered to be an impermissible use of school district resources.

In 1992, Klausner filed a lawsuit on behalf of proponents of Proposition 174, which would have allowed state tax dollars to be used to subsidize private school tuition, alleging that the LAUSD used district resources to denounce the measure. The district was sued again in 1994, by another group, for allegedly taking an active role in fighting the passage of Proposition 187, which sought to deny most government services, including public education, to illegal immigrants.

This time, if the Plaintiffs are successful, they hope to prevent other governmental bodies from using public funds for similar ends in the future.

Donner likened the district's misuse of public funds to President Clinton's renting the Lincoln Bedroom to campaign contributors. "It's time to start holding our public officials responsible for their actions," he said "and make sure that they spend our tax dollars appropriately — not on advancing their own political agendas." ■



## Supremes to Hear Libertarians' Case

(continued from page 1)

look foolish," said Chamber of Commerce Chairman Stephen Cushman.

The expansion project has a \$213 million price tag. Rider contends that its financing is illegal because voters were not asked to approve the \$186 million in bonds that would pay for most of it.

"Our city charter makes clear that all bonds must come to a vote and be approved by a two-thirds majority," Rider said. "It makes no exception for revenue bonds, and excludes the City Council from making such decisions on long term debt. Show me where these City Council critters were elected on a platform of issuing hundreds of millions of dollars of debt without a vote of the people. We tried to get the City Council to put the stadium and convention center projects on the ballot in both the March 1996 primary and in the November 1996 general election, but they decided that a

protracted court battle was preferable."

Bruce Henderson, Plaintiff in the Stadium case, said: "It is utterly and totally irresponsible that the City Council members didn't put this on the ballot."

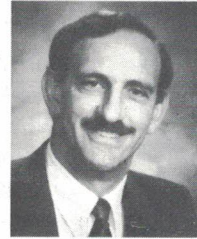
The controversy over the project's financing surrounds a little con game known as *lease revenue*. Spending restraints placed upon state and local governments by Proposition 13, including putting bond issues to a vote, have inspired politicians and bureaucrats to seek duplicitous ways of reaching into the public's pocket without asking its permission. One such method is lease revenue — a scam in which state and local governments create paper entities that issue bonds to build facilities, which are then leased to the government. Lease revenue bonds generate no funds beyond the rental payments from government — public money taken from one pocket and placed into another. They are, in effect, general-obligation bonds passed without the voter approval required by

law. Nearly \$16 billion in lease revenue bonds have been issued to build a myriad of public projects. Those involved in this slick and shady maneuver know it's just an end run around voters — as they intend it to be.

"Cities are turning to creative financing, non-voter approved, as a way of raising revenue," said Steve Erie, an urban policy professor at U.C.S.D. "This is becoming a dominant financing technique in California local government." True, but as City Manager Jack McGrory admitted, "Lease revenue financing is under a dark cloud until the Supreme Court makes a decision on this."

The court may take more than a year to rule on the Libertarians' case, which could stall other lease revenue funded projects throughout the state.

"If we win," said Plaintiffs' attorney Carl Fabian, "it will mean that city charters will mean what they say, and that taxpayers will be in charge of their debt once again." ■

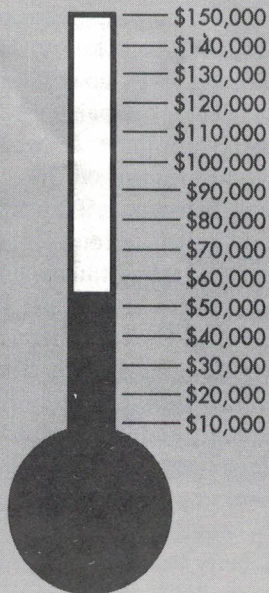


**Richard Rider**

## Growth Watch 1997

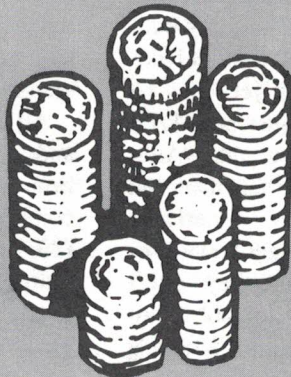
### Revenue

Current: \$55,127  
Year End Goal: \$150,000



### Pledges & Donations

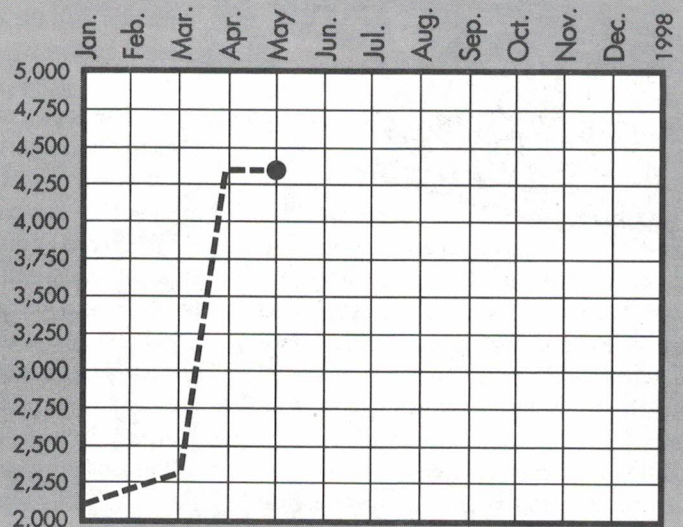
Totals for April  
Pledges: \$2,017  
Donations: \$7,769



**Help Us Grow!** To make a monthly pledge or one time donation, use the form on back of this newsletter, or call (408) 243-2711 x33.

### Membership

Current: 4,285 Year End Goal: 5,000



**Help Us Grow!** Ask just one friend or coworker to join the Libertarian Party in 1997 -- or offer to pay their dues the first year if they will consider paying them when it comes time to renew!

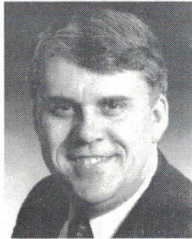


A Former LPC Chair Asks:

## Don't Mind Paying Taxes?

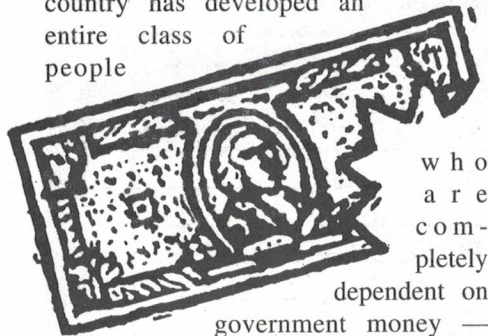
by George L. O'Brien

I never quite know what to say when someone tells me that they "don't mind paying taxes," just so long as the money is "fairly distributed." While this usually means that they pay less while someone else pays more, I am still puzzled.



Why don't they mind? Sure, the level of taxation is disguised by being taken out in small chunks from our pay checks or is hidden in the cost of everything we buy. But in the 1770's, American colonists revolted over extremely low rates of indirect taxes. For most of the 19th century, politicians found it almost impossible to raise taxes above 6% of the gross domestic product — and that was *all* taxes.

Certainly, there have always been some people who supported higher taxes because they were sure they would get first crack at the money. Over time, the country has developed an entire class of people



career bureaucrats, politicians, government contractors, people in subsidized industries and, of course, the poor wretches who gave up their personal integrity to submit to the welfare system. Their indifference to the harm done by taxation is understandable.

I can also understand the indifference of those who have found ways to minimize their taxes through special breaks and exemptions. I can even understand the motives of the utopian "do gooders" who seem so sure that they can solve

poverty, racism, ignorance, sickness, bad manners and who knows what else "if there were more tax money." The fact that it hasn't worked so far never discourages them.

What I can't understand is hearing this statement from the average working stiff — barely making ends meet, worrying if the car will last another year while having no savings and knowing Social Security is going broke. Why haven't the working stiffs formed lynch mobs to string up the politicians who kept promising them tax cuts, but kept raising taxes instead?

Oh sure, many people have figured out ways to "fiddle" on their taxes and the "underground economy" is clearly growing. But American tax evasion is a pale shadow compared to the wonderful underground economy in places like Italy (where over 40% of their real GDP is underground). In America, with the exception of the drug trade, most people actually pay their taxes without a peep.

So why? I suspect it may be that many people imagine that it is their "patriotic duty" to quietly pay their taxes. "Refuse to pay? What are you, some kind of 'commie.'" In the days when most of the Federal budget went to military spending, there was a perverse kind of logic to this view. The fact that the money no longer goes to the military and the military budget was never really focused on defending the U.S. has not sunk in yet.

It really is remarkable just how loyal most Americans are to this country. After being picked clean by the tax man and regulated to death, most Americans remain deeply patriotic. They know they are being exploited, but they don't protest. Instead, they try to fool themselves and everyone else into believing that they really don't mind.

It makes you wonder exactly what would happen if these same people concluded that it was their patriotic duty *not* to pay these taxes. Who knows — it happened before. ■

## Anti-Servitude Essay Contest

by Don L. Tiggre

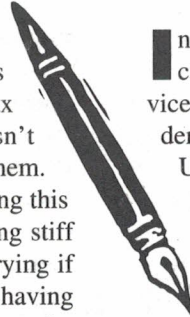
In response to President Clinton's campaign to make community service mandatory for all high school students, The Liberty Round Table, a Utah-based pro-individual freedom group, is sponsoring a nationwide essay contest for high school and college students writing on the theme: "Fighting Involuntary Servitude for Students."

The LRT will award \$750 for Best Essay from a college student and \$500 for Best Essay from a high school student. A \$250 second prize will also be awarded in each category. The deadline for submissions is July 4, 1997.

The LRT has stated that entries should expose the immorality of enslaving our young people, and also expressed interest in essays that offer practical advice on ways for students to escape mandatory service, to protest being forced into servitude, and to perform their "service" in a manner that will make the government regret ever having coerced them.

The LRT believes that "mandatory volunteerism" will only teach students that the Bill of Rights is void, and that the state has the right to commandeer their lives to whatever purposes it deems appropriate. The LRT also hopes that students participating in its contest can refocus the President's campaign upon true volunteerism, and thus achieve a victory for individual rights.

All entries must be under 1,500 words and submitted in electronic form. More information about the contest, including complete rules and guidelines, can be found on the LRT's website at <<http://home.lrt.org>>. The URL is new: if you have trouble accessing it, try the group's old address: <<http://home.utah-inter.net/don-tiggre/lrthp.htm>>. You can also receive hard copy information by sending a 5"x9" envelope with a \$0.78 stamp to The Liberty Round Table, 6546 South State St. #122, Murray, UT 84107. ■





## San Diego Convention Center Lawsuit:

**No Frivolous Matter**

by Lewis A. Wenzell

**A**s one of the attorneys representing Richard Rider and others in the lawsuit accepted for review by the California Supreme Court challenging the San Diego Convention Center expansion financing scheme, I have held my tongue for the past year while our lawsuit has been called "frivolous" by everyone from the attorneys representing the City's officials to the editors of the *Union-Tribune*.

Several months ago, the attorney for the group of downtown business interests demanded "that your clients dismiss their lawsuit" because it was "without probable cause." In non-legal terms, that means frivolous times three.

An attorney representing the City filed an (unsuccessful) motion seeking to fine Rider because his appeal had been "frivolous from the inception." He also called our arguments the "sort of silliness [which] present no issue to which the California Supreme Court should devote its limited resources."

All this was in addition to the cackling of the politicians, their toadies, and the Chamber of Commerce.

These barbs imply that the attorneys litigating the lawsuit, who are working without pay, are fools. Were I vindictive, I'd be tempted to explore the question, "Who's the fool now?" After all, the California Supreme Court's decision to review a case (which it does in less than 1% of those presented to it) proves our lawsuit was never frivolous.

I cannot recall the last time that one of my arguments was called frivolous during my representations of criminal defendants. Yet, during my forays into public interest litigation, my arguments have been ridiculed by the politicians I oppose and their attorneys — not to mention the "objective" journalists parroting their views. Of course, when my arguments ultimately prevail, I never receive even the faintest odor of an apology.

What drives these people to unfairly ridicule anyone who dares hold a view

different from theirs? The answer, I'm afraid, is that their insatiable quest for money and power blinds them to the fact that some people are willing to stand up for principles without the prospect of financial reward.

For example, take the mantra of opponents to a public vote that "the City Council is elected to make decisions" about big public projects. This assertion contradicts history, which shows that the primary purpose of the voter approval provisions in the California Constitution and the San Diego City Charter is to require the City Council to convince the public that it has good reason to spend public funds.

Our forefathers realized that, unchecked, elected officials would try to reward those who rewarded them at the expense of the public interest. The stadium and convention center expansion projects prove our forefathers were right. Just look at the primary beneficiaries of these projects: multi-millionaire, millionaire, and hope-to-be-millionaire team owners, businessmen and lawyers who are all well-connected political insiders. And look at the losers: citizens whose roads are crumbling, whose neighborhoods are gang-infested and whose beaches are polluted — to name a few of the public's problems.

Using the sham of lease revenue financing, the politicians and their patrons have turned the law on its head: instead

of the City Council having to convince the taxpayers that they should go into debt, now the taxpayers must convince the Council that it should not put them into debt! Surely, the men who made voter approval of debt provisions part of our state constitution and city charter must be turning over in their graves.

Another verse of the expansion proponents' mantra is that Rider and his allies are "anti-tax activists" seeking to promote their own "political agenda." But, as economist Joseph Schumpeter once noted, "The only person's motivation we really know is our own — and that which we project onto others provides, at best, clues to our own motives." How aptly his words apply here.

Consider what the plaintiffs in this lawsuit have to gain if they prevail: the right to cast a vote regarding the financing of the convention center expansion project. Now look at what their opponents have to gain if they prevail: the politicians retain the power to use public money to reward their supporters, as well as the other perks associated with plundering the public purse; and their patrons get to have their pockets filled with millions of tax dol-

lars. With this in mind, the motives of the two sides ought to be clear.

Sadly, it seems that, in the public debate, symbolism often overshadows substance and politics often obscures principle. I can't predict the outcome of this case, but I can guarantee you this: if you ever see my name on a public interest lawsuit, the arguments will have substance and a matter of principle will be involved. ■

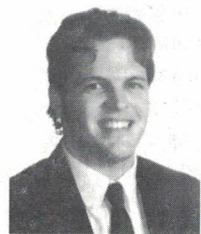




# Tax Day Protests

*Libertarians Sponsor Demonstrations All Across California*

**O**n April 15th, honoring a longtime tradition, Libertarians all over the state organized and participated in a series of protests of the income tax. Here's what happened in three regions...



Michael Vardoulis

## Orange County

In Region 30, LPC activists constructed a number of massive banners bearing anti-tax slogans and hung them on freeway overpasses during the morning rush hour. The banners,

which measured 6'x15' and bore such sentiments as "Abolish the IRS" and "Dare Not to Pay," were conspicuous to commuters traveling in both directions.

"We wanted people to ask themselves what would happen if even 15% of Americans decided not to pay their taxes?" said activist **Michael Vardoulis**.

The stunt proved to be a good attention-grabber. According to Vardoulis: "Fox News reported that morning traffic had slowed on the 55 freeway due to 'people reading some banners placed on the overpass fences,' and they also showed one our 'Abolish the IRS' signs."

In addition, many Orange County Libertarians reported that their co-workers, friends and family members mentioned having seen the signs. **Travis Heath**, a Libertarian high school student, said that his civics teacher even changed his lesson plan to a discussion of taxation because he had seen the banners on his way to school: "It was cool to have the focus of our class shift from the drivel that the government normally makes us learn to a topic I can identify with," said Heath, "all thanks to a little grassroots Libertarian activism!"

Although, according to Vardoulis, "The banners were taken down by police and city officials some time between twenty minutes and four hours after we put them up, the signs certainly had their impact. The challenge now is to continue getting citizens to question the government's intrusive role in their lives."

## San Diego

This year, members of LPC Region 37 gathered for their annual Tax Day Protest in the Point Loma area of San Diego. There, they offered local citizens the option of depositing their taxes in "a giant toilet or wishing well, depending on their level of optimism," said **Joe Colannino**, Regional Chair. "We delivered the returns to the Midway post office before midnight — the bewitching hour."

According to **Jack Anderson**, the event organizer, Region 37 activists collected "about 1,000 tax returns — and, by an extremely conservative estimate, the toilet beat out the wishing well by a margin of about 10 to 1."

Libertarians have become well known advocates of smaller government and lower taxes in the San Diego area. **Richard Rider** and other local LPC activists have been very successful during the last few years writing ballot arguments against tax increases and filing legal actions against illegally imposed taxes and bonds — all of which have saved San Diego taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars.

"We don't recommend that taxpayers cheat on their taxes," Colannino said. "Instead, they should people Congress with Libertarians who will eliminate the IRS and replace it with — nothing! In the meantime, the law is unfortunately the law. But peacefully protesting the income tax by dropping your return in the our giant phony toilet is still legal — at least for now!"

## San Fernando Valley

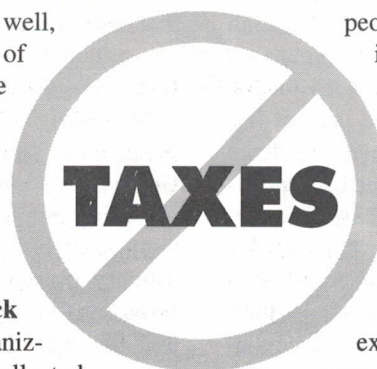
Region 61 held its annual Tax Day Protest Rally at the Main Post Office in Van Nuys. About a dozen members, including Region Chair **Kit Maira** and Vice Chair **Juan Ros**, were on hand, holding protest signs and handing out flyers to last-minute filers. The reaction

from tax-payers was overwhelmingly positive, as evidenced by the non-stop blare of car horns responding to the Libertarians' "Honk If You Hate Taxes!" signs.

"Americans are fed up with taxes and finally starting to realize that the Republicrats aren't going to do what the people want — abolish the income tax and replace it with nothing," said Ros. "April 15th is a day of dread for all Americans. We're telling folks that if the LP had its way, April 15th would come and go just like any other day — except people'd have a lot more money to spend because they wouldn't be paying taxes!"

The protest resulted in a favorable article on the LP, written by columnist Scott Harris and published in the April 17th *Los Angeles Times*. Harris, who leans to the left, accurately described LP positions and quoted Ros repeatedly.

As for Region 61? "We'll be back next year," Ros said. "As long as U.S. citizens are paying income tax, we'll be here to let them know that there is an alternative — if they vote for Libertarians." ■



## Candidates Wanted

LPC Candidate Coordinator Ted Brown (R63) is currently recruiting statewide candidates for the '98 election. Soon, he hopes to have candidates announced for Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General and Treasurer. The office that he would like to fill with someone other than himself (after '90 and '94 runs) is Insurance Commissioner, which requires some knowledge of the insurance industry. If you are in the insurance business — an agent, broker, adjuster, actuary, attorney, etc. — and interested in possibly running for this office, please contact Brown by telephone at (818) 286-7817, or by e-mail at <tedb@IDT.NET>.





Steve Kubby with his wife Michelle, his son Sky, and his baby daughter Brooke.

## Kubby

(continued from page 1)

federal policies that have destroyed states' rights and made prison industries a leading state employer. I intend to expose the stupidity and hypocrisy of those who consider themselves to be our political masters. I want Californians to be able to make a truly informed choice. We've all become tax slaves to our government. It's time for change."

Kubby has survived twenty-two years with a cancer that once earned him a "six months to live" death sentence. He attributes his successful fight to his own positive attitude and will to live, to the love and support he has received from his family and friends, and to natural medicines, including marijuana.

His own experience using medical marijuana prompted Kubby to become one of the driving forces behind the Medical Marijuana Initiative, Proposition 215, passed by California voters last November but still being opposed by the state and federal governments. Senator Diane Feinstein recently introduced legislation to punish doctors and patients who comply with the law.

"The federal government, aided and

abetted by Feinstein and Dan Lungren, wants to deny Californians access to the medicine that has kept me alive and allowed me to lead a productive life," said Kubby. "The once sacred doctor-patient relationship is now being violated by federal policemen and government bureaucrats indifferent to the pain and suffering of their constituents. This will stop the day I take office."

In 1970, Steve Kubby created Earth Camp One, a summer camp for children that consistently received the highest accreditation rating in the United States. He was forced to sell it after contracting adrenal cancer. His next professional venture, undertaken during his illness, was to establish a profitable property management company. Later, with two credit cards and the proceeds of the sale of his car, Kubby launched *Ski West* magazine, which soon became the number one ski magazine in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, and a best seller on the U.S. East Coast. Currently, he is the Editor-in-Chief of *Alpine World Online*, an electronic magazine rated one of the top Internet websites.

Kubby plans to run an aggressive Gubernatorial campaign that includes a large slate of speaking engagements and radio and TV talk show appearances. ■

## For Your Information...

### Renewing membership

Renewal notices are sent to members whose expiration date is coming up. Just return your dues payment in the accompanying envelope and your membership at the national, state, and local level will be renewed for one year. Please respond to renewal notices promptly so we don't need to send additional reminders — every additional notice costs money we could otherwise use to grow the party!

### Address changes

Be sure to let us know if you move! Send your address change notice to the national office so that your newsletters and other important correspondence can be sent to your new address. If you are moving out of state but want to continue as an LPC member or continue subscribing to *LPC Monthly*, please also notify the state office so we can make the necessary arrangements to keep you on our list.

### Special requests

If you need some special update to your membership records, such as a change in region affiliation, please contact the state office.

### Your address label

The address label on your copy of this newsletter provides important information relating to your membership records. On the top line of the label, you will find a six-digit number. Please mention this number in any correspondence relating to your membership.

On the same line you will also find a two-digit number identifying the LPC region with which you are affiliated. (If you are not a member but are receiving the newsletter for some other reason there will be a two-letter code instead.) See the listing on page 11 to find out the name of your region and who to contact for information about local activities.

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#### REGIONAL:

See page 11.



# Spread the L-Word

with...

## Lady Liberty Flag

Show your colors with this striking Libertarian banner! 50 white stars encircle Lady Liberty set against a blue field. Ideal for display at regional meetings or public events. Measures 3'x5' and made of durable nylon. Long may it wave! \$65 each.



## Lady Liberty Desk Flag

Don't have room for the full size banner above? You can still tell your friends and coworkers that you fight for freedom with this small but spunky desk flag! Includes mini-pole and base. \$5 each.

## Libertarian T-Shirt

Cover your liberty-loving heart with this 100% pre-shrunk cotton crew. LP logo in rainbow colors silk-screened on white. Sizes: S,M,L,XL and XXL. Wear it with pride! \$15 each.



## Libertarian Party Logo Pin

Tell everyone you belong to the Party of Principle with this badge of freedom. Gold and blue Lady Liberty on a white cloisonné enamel background outlined in gold and red. Measures 7/16" by 3/4". Beautiful! \$10.

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ITEM	QTY.	PRICE	SUBTOTAL
Lady Liberty Flag .....	x	\$65.00	=
Lady Liberty Desk Flag .....	x	\$5.00	=
T-Shirt/circle size: S M L XL XXL .....	x	\$15.00	=
LP Logo Pin .....	x	\$10.00	=
TOTAL:			_____

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## Prop. 209

(continued from page 2)

mer LPC Southern Vice Chair, for his work with various coalition groups in getting CCRI on the ballot. He also said that he wondered why the ACLU wants to continue its appeal: "I'm an ACLU member myself, and I believe that there are other more important issues that the organization should be addressing — like stopping the government's attempts to censor the Internet."

Whether or not the ACLU gets it right, the Ninth Circuit has written a brilliant and historic decision. Bravo! Bravisimo! ■

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## Coming Soon:

*Libertarians  
on Talk Radio!*

*Libertarians  
on Campus*



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...sdlp\_dir/LP/home.html

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*I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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